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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/992,914	12/18/1997	EIJIRO WATANABE	0020-4348P	4405
2292 7590 08/03/2007 BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			EXAMINER KRUSE, DAVID H	
			ART UNIT 1638	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 08/03/2007	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08992914	12/18/97	WATANABE ET AL.	0020-4348P

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**EXAMINER**

David H. Kruse

ART UNIT	PAPER
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1638

20070723

**DATE MAILED:**

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**Commissioner for Patents**

The reply brief filed 16 July 2007 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David H. Kruse, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (571) 272-0799. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anne Marie Grunberg can be reached at (571) 272-0975. The central FAX number for official correspondence is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.

**DAVID H. KRUSE, PH.D.**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

David H. Kruse, Ph.D.

23 July 2007

David H Kruse  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 1638